

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-14 (cancelled)

15. (New) A safety system for an elevator installation, comprising:
a control unit;
at least one bus node;
at least one safety element; and
a bus which enables communication between the control unit and the bus node, wherein the bus node comprises first switching means which on digital presetting of a target magnitude by the control unit acts on the safety element with a first analog signal and second switching means which derive an analog signal from the safety element and make digital feedback information available to the control unit by way of the bus.
16. (New) The safety system according to claim 15, wherein the at least one safety element is at least one safety-relevant elements from the group consisting of: a door contact, a lock contact, a buffer contact, a flap contact, a sensor, an actuator, a travel switch, and an emergency stop switch.
17. (New) The safety according to claim 15, wherein the first switching means comprises a write element which provides the first analog signal, and the second switching means comprises a read element which processes a second analog signal.
18. (New) The safety system according to claim 17, wherein the bus node comprises a processor which converts the presetting of the control unit into the first analog signal or triggers a conversion into the first analog signal.
19. (New) The safety system according to claim 17, wherein the bus node comprises a processor which converts the second analog signal into the digital feedback information or triggers a conversion of the second analog signal.

20. (New) The safety system according to claim 15, wherein the switching means at least in part is an analog switching means and the bus node comprises an analog-to-digital converter that
- a) converts the digital presetting of the control unit into an analog magnitude which corresponds with the first analog signal or is correlated with the first analog signal, and
 - b) converts the analog signal into digital information.
21. (New) The safety system according to claim 17, wherein the bus node is operative to carry out a qualitative comparison of the first analog signal with the second analog signal and/or a qualitative evaluation of the first analog signal and make a result of the comparison available as digital diagnostic information.
22. (New) The safety system according to one of claim 17, wherein the control unit is operative to carry out a quantitative comparison of the first analog signal with the second analog signal, wherein the comparison takes place based on the digital presetting and the digital feedback information.
23. (New) A method for continuous checking of a safety system of an elevator installation, wherein the safety system comprises a control unit, at least one bus node, at least one safety element and a bus, which enables a communication between the control unit and the bus node, the method comprising the steps of:
- a) transmitting digital information by the control unit to the bus node by way of the bus in order to thereby preset a target magnitude;
 - b) converting the digital information by the bus node in order to prepare a first analog signal which corresponds with the target magnitude or is correlated therewith;
 - c) applying the first analog signal to, or impressing the first analog signal on, the safety element;
 - d) deriving or receiving an analog signal at a safety element by the bus node;
 - e) processing the analog signal by the bus node; and
 - f) preparing digital feedback information by the bus node for the control unit.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, further including processing of digital information and the feedback information in the control unit, wherein a statement about the safety element is made possible.
25. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the step of processing of the analog signal includes a qualitative evaluation of the first analog signal, wherein the evaluation is carried out entirely or partly by the bus node.
26. (New) The method according to one of claim 23, wherein the converting step includes a digital-to-analog conversion by the bus node in order to convert the digital information into the first signal.
27. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the bus node on processing of the analog signal carries out an analog-to-digital conversion in order to convert the analog signal into the digital feedback information.
28. (New) The method according to one of claim 23, wherein the bus node is constructed in redundant manner and steps a) to c) are performed by switching means of the bus node that are different from steps d) and e).